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PRESENT Team

DATE 04.21.04 TIME 6:00-8:00 pm

PROJECT Wichita 21st Street Revitalization Plan

SUBJECT Workshop #2 Public Meeting Notes

“WHAT-IF”/ BIG IDEAS**Group #1**

- Remove tracks or separate them from vehicles with an underpass or overpass
- Publish train schedules so they are more predictable
- Provide training facilities for Hispanics
- Improve traffic flow on 21st St. (make it easy to travel fast); 4 lane road
- Provide more green space from Amidon to WSU
- Create a commercial area- mall or big center
- Maintain train tracks and the streets that intersect with them
- Streetscape improvements- lighted sidewalks, crosswalks, signs
- Create bike lanes on arterials
- Remove odor entirely

Group #2

- City should help improve the existing small businesses in the area
- Don't hurt existing small businesses- easy to drive up rent
- Area deserves its fair share of federal funding- City hasn't been paying enough attention to this area
- Use Federal (CDBG) funds to create jobs in this area
- Develop a place for fiestas on 21st St. somewhere between Broadway and North Woodland Park
- Provide more retail space
- Provide better parks and open spaces
- Improve appearance along the corridor

Group #3

- Realign 21st Street to go either over or under RR lines
- Refinery site: provide a hotel or golf course
- Avoid chasing away businesses
- Improve the individual buildings along entire corridor (i.e. church, dentist office @ Minneapolis, Thai Bin Market)
- Woodland Park improvements; bike trails that could connect all parks
- Widen Arkansas, Broadway, and 21st Street
- Locate a community center at 21st St. and Amidon
- Develop a business incubator center east of I-135

Group #4

- 21st Street remains at grade- burry rail
- I-135 interchange announced as a major gateway to both east and west side
- Aesthetics have to be improved!
- Move the unsightly businesses away from 21st St.
- Can we realign ourselves
- Cultural Arts- attraction based on arts and business
- Work with WSU for neighbors and campus to reap mutual benefit
- Turn Refinery site into a regional commercial destination; hotel
- Create a casino area along Broadway
- Install round-a-bouts in west area
- Remove rendering plant
- Telecommunications center at 21st St. and Arkansas node + restaurants, play, and cultural center
- More parking on 21st St. west of Broadway

Group #5

- Cluster small shops; vibrant shops in one area that are walkable
- Warehouse shopping districts- designer goods at cheaper prices
- Museum- display cultural resources that would kick off retail surrounding it and that would preserve the history
- Mercado- Flea Market; designer, discount market (warehouse space available); year round tourist destination cultural area west of Broadway
- Provide for more retail with patios and outdoor dining; Cheesecake Factory
- Get a Target or Costco at Amidon and 21st Street
- Widen 21st St from Amidon to ~ Arkansas
- Provide money/incentives to improve store front facades!!!
- Burry railroads
- Slow traffic on 21st St.
- More sporting events at WSU to attract patrons to the businesses
- Bring in an amusement park, water park, soccer fields, recreation center in central sub-area
- Create a Job training center

Group #6

- Need a job retention center
- Not in favor of big box or night clubs; keep businesses locally owned and small
- Improve River access – bike path from 13th to Amidon- incorporate into the area
- Provide elevated 21st street: swoops south or north
- Remove refinery and rendering plant; clean up industrial area
- Start in the west sub-area as Phase I, central area Phase II, and east sub-area Phase III
- Put parking in the back of buildings
- Develop a center turn lane on 21st Street

Group #7

- Get big super store (Target) at the Refinery
- Create nice Mexican plaza from Broadway to Arkansas with a fountain and a roundabout; open air market to attract people from all around
- Put a Home Depot on the rendering plant property
- Develop an Asian Corridor from 21st St. to 17th St and Market to Broadway
- Bring in artists and artisans to the area
- Develop tools to empower self-investment; ability to improve small businesses
- Establish a Grassroots Neighborhood Business Organization to attract more customers and businesses

- Restore the NoMar Theater
- Arches as entry ways into the area
- Create an old town (the historic old town area) from 20th St. to 22nd St. from Broadway to Arkansas

Group #8

- Central sub-area has a gateway bridge with lights, sidewalks, and visible from whole city- “The Gateway Bridge” area
- West sub-area - preserved modernized, accessible, walkable, bus stops, attractive, green, Hispanic festival, safe, fun place for families, civic pride, small businesses blend with existing- “The Mercado” corridor
- East sub-area - new businesses infill on vacant spaces; new buildings are made of brick; a good place to eat; students, faculty, kids and neighbors stay; new businesses are small; grocery; hotel – “The College Corridor”

Group #9

- Develop an elevated monorail from downtown up to Broadway with a transfer station at 21st /Broadway
- Make the Refinery site a ‘diversity village’ - give shops option to relocate to vibrant new ethnic center
- Improve air quality on all of 21st Street.
- Move rail lines to one central corridor in the middle of the Central sub-area; would open up land along Broadway for flex industrial space
- Elaborate the I-135 gateway as a city and neighborhood gateway
- The interchange at I-135 / 29th St. is played up as the industrial gateway